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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,951	02/12/2002	Atsuo Nishino	Q67118	2263

7590 12/18/2003
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EXAMINER

VALENTINE, DONALD R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1742

DATE MAILED: 12/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,951

Applicant(s)

NISHINO ET AL.

Examiner

Donald R. Valentine

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 30-52 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-29 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,8,13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-7 and 9-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Group I invention, claims 1-13 and 15-28 in Paper No. 103003 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 30-52 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 103003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kawasumi et al.

Kawasumi et al show the step of roughening a surface of an aluminum plate in which the surface-roughening step includes a *pretreatment* electrolytic surface-roughening step (equivalent to an 'electrolytic pre-roughening surface' step) in an aqueous solution of hydrochloric acid; an alkali-etching step and a desmutting treatment. Alternating current is utilized. The concentrations limits are disclosed within the limits claimed by applicant. Nitric and hydrochloric acid are utilized. There is a second electrolytic roughening step. See disclosure of patent at col. 5, lines 1-65.

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5. Claim 1, 8, 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nishino et al '605.

Nishino et al show the step of roughening a surface of an aluminum plate in which the surface roughening step includes two electrochemical surface roughening steps in an aqueous solution of nitric acid, but which may also be hydrochloric acid (see col. 2, lines 64-68). An alkali etching step and a desmutting treatment is in between these steps. (See col. 3, lines 3-60 and col. 4, lines 30-35).

As for claim 8, the reference provides an anodic oxidation step; see col. 4, lines 40-45 and col. 5, line 15.

As for claims 13-14, see col. 5, lines 15-30.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 15-29 allowed.
7. Claims 2-7 and 9-12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
8. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The references of record do not show or suggest a method comprising a step of roughening at least one surface of an aluminum plate wherein the surface-roughening step includes an AC-electrolytic surface roughening step in an aqueous nitric acid solution having a nitrate ion concentration and an aluminum ion concentration of from 5 to 15g/liter each and an ammonium ion concentration of from 10 to 100 ppm.

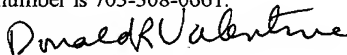
Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nishino et al, '157, '877 and Nakanishi et al show electrolytic surface roughening.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donald R. Valentine whose telephone number is 703-308-3327. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on 703-308-1146. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9310.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.



Donald R. Valentine
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1742

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December 11, 2003